

Message Text

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SUBJECT: THIRD COMMITTEE--US STATEMENT INTRODUCING AMENDMENTS
TO YOUTH RESOLUTION

1. STATEMENT BY US REP (MRS. JEAN PICKER) IN THIRD COMITE
INTRODUCING AMENDMENTS CONTAINED A/C.3/L.2065 FOLLOWS
BELOW.

MR. CHAIRMAN

MY GOVERNMENT HAS NOT TAKEN THE FLOOR IN THE GENERAL DEBATE,
NOT BECAUSE WE DO NOT THINK THE WORLD SITUATION OF YOUTH A
VERY IMPORTANT CONCERN. WE DO. BUT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SPEAK
EXTENSIVELY IN OTHER UN BODIES, SUCH AS THE COMMISSION FOR
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ECOSOC ON YOUTH. WE FEEL THAT THOSE
COUNTRIES WHO ARE NOT REPRESENTED ON THESE OTHER BODIES CON-
CERNED WITH YOUTH SHOULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS
THEMSELVES FULLY IN THIRD COMMITTEE.

MY GOVERNMENT JOINS WITH THE MANY OTHER DELEGATIONS WHO ARE
CONCERNED ABOUT THE ACCESSIBILITY TO YOUTH OF EDUCATION,
EMPLOYMENT, FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND SO FORTH. WE ALSO JOIN
THOSE DELEGATIONS WHO DISCUSSED AS WELL THE RESPONSIBILITIES
OF YOUTH IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

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WE CONGRATULATE ROMANIA IN TAKING LEADERSHIP IN THIS ITEM,

AND WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT WE CAN JOIN IN FULL SUPPORT OF
RESOLUTION 2061.

WE DO HAVE SOME CONCERNS THAT WE HOPE CAN BE ACCEPTED BY
THE CO-SPONSORS. WE HAVE SUBMITTED THESE AMENDMENTS TO THE
SECRETARIAT. THESE AMENDMENTS DO NOT CHANGE THE ESSENCE OF
THE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS, BUT WOULD BE MORE ACCEPTABLE TO MY
GOVERNMENT.

IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 3, LINE 2, ADD THE WORDS "YOUTH AND"
BETWEEN THE WORD "WITH" AND THE WORD "YOUTH." THE SENTENCE
WOULD READ, "CALLS UPON INTERNATIONAL REGIONAL AND NON-
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, IN COOPERATION WITH YOUTH AND YOUTH
ORGANIZATIONS, TO UNDERTAKE" ETC.

WE SUGGEST THESE ADDITIONAL TWO WORDS BECAUSE IN OUR OPINION,
THE YOUTH WE ARE ALL CONCERNED ABOUT ARE NOT NECESSARILY
ORGANIZED INTO ORGANIZATIONS. WE HAVE BEEN, AND ARE, CON-
CERNED THAT YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS WHO CLAIM TO SPEAK FOR YOUTH PER
SE ARE SPEAKING FOR ONLY A SMALL MINORITY OF ARTICULATE
PEOPLE.

OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 5. WE FULLY CONCUR WITH THE IMPORTANCE
OF THE UN SYSTEM CONTINUING ITS CONCERN WITH THE PROBLEMS
OF YOUTH, BUT WE QUESTION THE EMPHASIS IN PRESENT OPERATIVE
PARAGRAPH 5 ON MORE REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS AND
THE EMPHASIS ON THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.
WE FEEL THAT THE EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON NATIONAL MEETINGS OF
YOUTH, SO YOUTH CAN CONCERN ITSELF ON A NATIONAL LEVEL WITH
THEIR COUNTRIES' DEVELOPMENT. AND AS WE HAVE MENTIONED EARLIER,
WE ARE CONCERNED THAT "INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS" DO NOT
NECESSARILY SPEAK FOR YOUTH PER SE. THEREFORE, MR. CHAIRMAN, WE
WOULD LIKE TO OFFER AS A REPLACEMENT TO OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 5,
THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE. WE DO NOT FEEL OUR AMENDMENT WEAKENS
THE SENSE OF THE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 5--OUR AMENDMENT DOES
NOT SINGLE OUT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AS THE WAY TO MEET
THE CONCERNS FOR YOUTH. WE ALSO HAVE CONCERNS WITH PRESENT
OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 7. PRESENT OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 7 SEEMS
TO US TO EMPHASIZE MORE ADDITIONAL COMPREHENSIVE REPORTS BY
THE SECRETARIAT. MY GOVERNMENT FEELS THAT WE HAVE ALREADY
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BEEN PRESENTED WITH VERY COMPREHENSIVE REPORTS FROM THE
SECRETARIAT. WE JOIN WITH THE DELEGATIONS OF NEW ZEALAND
AND GREECE AND OTHERS WHO HAVE SUGGESTED IT IS TIME TO FOCUS
ON SPECIFICS AND OFFER, THEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING AS A REPLACE-
MENT PARAGRAPH 7.

IN THIS AMENDMENT WE HAVE SUGGESTED THE PROCEDURE THAT SUCH
DATA COME TO THE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, THE

COMMITTEE ON REVIEW AND APPRAISAL AND THE COMMITTEE ON
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AS WELL AS TO THE 31ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY.
WE FEEL THESE RELEVANT BODIES HAVE MORE TIME TO DELIBERATE
ON THIS IMPORTANT ITEM, BUT ALSO ARE THE BODIES
MOST CONCERNED WITH DEVELOPMENT IN THE UN.

MR. CHAIRMAN, WE HOPE THE COSPONSORS WILL NOT FIND OUR AMEND-
MENTS TOO DIFFICULT TO INCORPORATE IN THEIR RESOLUTION.
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